

**MEDICAL DIRECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES
September 24, 2004
150 North 18th Avenue, Suite 540-A**

Members Present:

Kevin Conn	Ben Bobrow (Chairman)
John Gallagher	John H. Raife
Michael Ward	Phillip C. Richemont
Carrier Walters	Thomas Wachtel

Members Absent:

Wendy Ann Lucid	Daniel Spaite
Harvey W. Meislin	
Frank Walter	

BEMS Staff Present:

Sarah Harpring
Donna Meyer
Susan Nicolas
Dona Markley
Vicki Conditt

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Kay Lewis

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ben Bobrow, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Medical Direction Commission to order at 9:15 a.m. A quorum was present.

II. DISCUSS/AMEND and/or APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by John Gallagher and seconded by John Raife to approve the minutes of January 23, 2004 with no corrections and approve the agenda for September 24, 2004. **Motion carried.**

III. REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Rose Conner, Assistant Director, Arizona Department of Health Services, addressed the Commission regarding Departmental and Bureau issues, including specific Bureau staffing changes.

IV. ANNOUCEMENT/INTRODUCTION OF BEMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Ben Bobrow provided a brief summary of his background, stated that he looks forward to working with MDC Council and the EMS Community, and thanked those with whom he has recently communicated.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- A. Membership Updates** – Dona Markley gave the Chairman's Report.
Ben Bobrow presented certificates to members.
- B. EMS Council Executive Committee Report** – This committee has not met.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Amyl Nitrite Pilot Project Annual Update** – This is a five year pilot project which originally began in June 2000. The Honeywell Fire Department has not responded to any emergencies warranting the use of Amyl Nitrite.

- B. Calcium Gluconate Pilot Project Annual Update** – This is a five year pilot project which originally began in October 2000. There was one incident on Thursday, July 22, 2004, the Honeywell Fire Department responded to a “possible chemical exposure.” Upon completion of a thorough accident investigation by the Honeywell Health, Safety and Environmental Department and Facility Operations Department, it was determined that the patient was not exposed to any chemicals in the sub-floor at all. The patient finally admitted that he stepped in a puddle on the floor in the Clean Line/Plating department near the pump. The patient was working on a sump pump. This puddle became a subsequent hazardous materials incident at 0910 hours the same morning. It was a product called Oakite Ruststripper (ph of 12) and was caused by the failure of a sump pump.

It was recommended that on the incident form under Response times add in-house and out-house next to the word “Dispatched”.

The Chairman, Ben Bobrow, requested that these items be put on the April 2005 Agenda to discuss final determination on EMT-Basic use of Amyl Nitrite and Calcium Gluconate.

Item: Amyl Nitrite Pilot Project and Calcium Gluconate Pilot Project
Follow Up: Medical Direction Commission
When: April 22, 2005

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Protocols, Medications, and Devices Committee Report** – The committee met on September 16, 2004. They discussed Statewide Pediatric Protocols.

B. Recommendations

1) Addition of Dexamethasone as an optional drug to R9-25-803

Exhibit 1, ALS

A motion was made by John Gallagher and seconded by Phillip Richemont to approve Dexamethasone be added as an optional drug to the drug box.

Motion carried.

A motion was made by John Gallagher and seconded by Phillip Richemont to remove acute spinal cord trauma from the Indications and Field Use and delete the special notes on the bottom of the second page of the drug profile for Dexamethasone. **Motion carried.**

2) Addition of Vasopressin as an optional drug to R9-25-803 Exhibit 1, ALS

A motion was made by John Gallagher seconded by Kevin Conn to add Vasopressin as an optional drug for epinephrine. **Motion carried.**

Discussion ensued on whether Vasopressin was more beneficial than epinephrine. John Gallagher would like to evaluate Vasopressin versus epinephrine to see which is more beneficial.

3) Addition of Ondansetron/Zofran as an optional drug to R9-25-803

Exhibit 1, ALS

It was felt that there should be some type of anti-nausea medication in the drug box. Even though Ondansetron/Zofran is expensive, it is a very safe drug.

A motion was made by John Gallagher seconded by Kevin Conn to add Zofran as an optional drug to the drug box.

The committee voted on the motion: 1-Yes, 6-No, and 1-Abstention.

Motion fails.

The committee recommended that PMD look at less expensive agents for nausea.

4) Approval of revised Drug Profile for Nalmefene HC1

A motion was made by John Gallagher seconded by Michael Ward to approve the drug profile for Nalmefene. **Motion carried.**

5) Approval of revised Drug Profile for Diltiazem

A motion was made by John Gallagher seconded by Kevin Conn to approve the drug profile for Diltiazem. **Motion carried.**

6) Addition of Xopenex as an Optional Drug to R9-25-803 Exhibit 1, ALS

A motion was made by John Gallagher seconded by Michael Ward to approve Xopenex as an optional drug.

The committee voted on the motion: 4-No, 3-Yes, and 1-Abstention.

Motion failed.

John Gallagher will talk to Charles Finch regarding researching Xopenex. John Gallagher will bring back to MDC.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Expanding Scope of Practice of EMT-Basics to Carry and Administer Epinephrine

Miss Kathleen Maxwell gave a presentation to the Commission. Her objective is to save lives of at risk Arizonans, such as her son, and visitors to Arizona, who have food and other types of allergies by urging the Commission to recommend that epinephrine be made universally available from EMT-Basics in the state of Arizona. Her son developed food allergies at 8 months old. She presented case studies supporting this issue and letters of support from allergists, to prevent anaphylactic episodes. Studies show no adverse outcomes from epinephrine.

Item: Expanding Scope of Practice of EMT-Basics to Carry and Administer Epinephrine

Follow Up: Next PMD Committee Meeting

When: November 18, 2004

B. 2005 Meeting Schedule

A motion was made by Thomas Wachtel seconded by Michael Ward to approve the 2005 Meeting Schedule. **Motion carried.**

C. BEMS Rulemaking Update

Dona Markley distributed and briefly reviewed the "Notice of BEMS Administrative Rulemaking Activity." This document describes the current rulemaking activities underway at the Bureau of EMS. Also included was a copy of draft trauma center designation rules and an agenda for an upcoming October 4, 2004 trauma center designation rules workgroup meeting.

The Trauma Center Designation Rules, with a projected October 2005 effective date, and the new Air Ambulance Rules, with a projected April 2006 effective date, are the Bureau's top rulemaking priorities. The purpose of the Air Ambulance Rulemaking is to establish new standards and processes for air ambulance service licensing and air ambulance registration. The Bureau of EMS will establish a core group to provide stakeholder input during the rulemaking and will hold public meetings to ensure community participation in the rulemaking process. This core group will include all current air ambulance services operating in Arizona, and other representatives from ground ambulance and EMS.

In addition, Ms. Markley mentioned a minor rulemaking currently underway to correct an oversight in the new EMS rules that went into effect January 2004. The rulemaking modifies the admission requirements for refresher courses to allow admission to individuals who have never held NREMT registration, but who must complete a refresher course in order to obtain NREMT registration.

She also stated that on September 21, 2004, 9 A.A.C. 25, Article 8 was renumbered to Article 5, to allow rules, not directly related to EMT practice, to be put in Articles 6, 7, and 8. There are no changes to the text of the rules, other than to correct citations.

IX. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one came forward.

X. TRAINING OR EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

XI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Medical Direction Commission will be held January 21, 2005.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Approved by: Medical Direction Commission

Date: January 21, 2005